Hansen's Star Map and the Precession of the Equinoxes Circle

By Wally Motloch
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Abstract

This article investigates the design of the terrazzo star map created by Oskar J.W. Hansen at
Hoover Dams Monument Plaza. Using the planetarium program Stellarium, the study reveals that
Hansen encoded the exact date and time of the dams dedicationSeptember 30, 1935, at 21:30into
the monuments celestial map. The findings support Hansens stated intent to preserve this historical

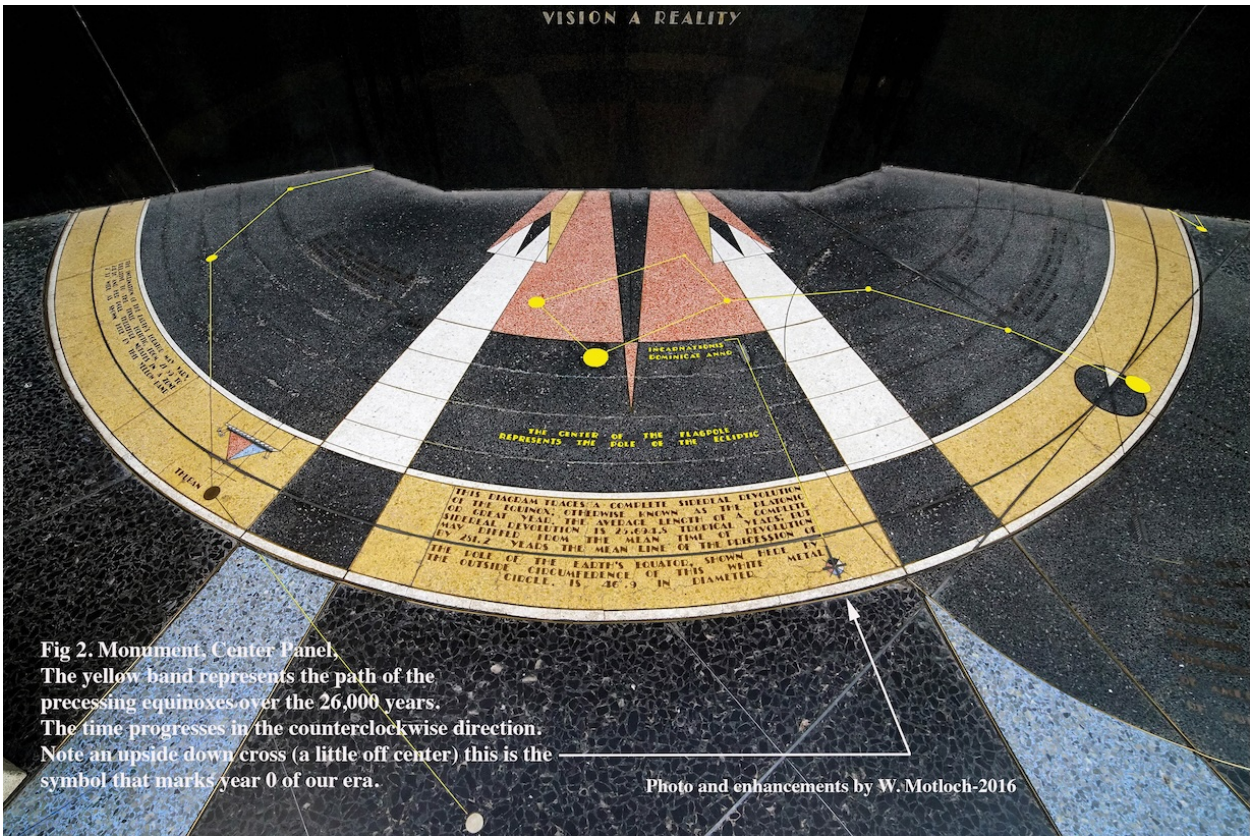


Fig 2. Monument, Center Panel,
The yellow band represents the path of the precessing equinoxes over the 26,000 years.
The time progresses in the counterclockwise direction.
Note an upside down cross (a little off center) this is the symbol that marks year 0 of our era.

Photo and enhancements by W. Motloch-2016

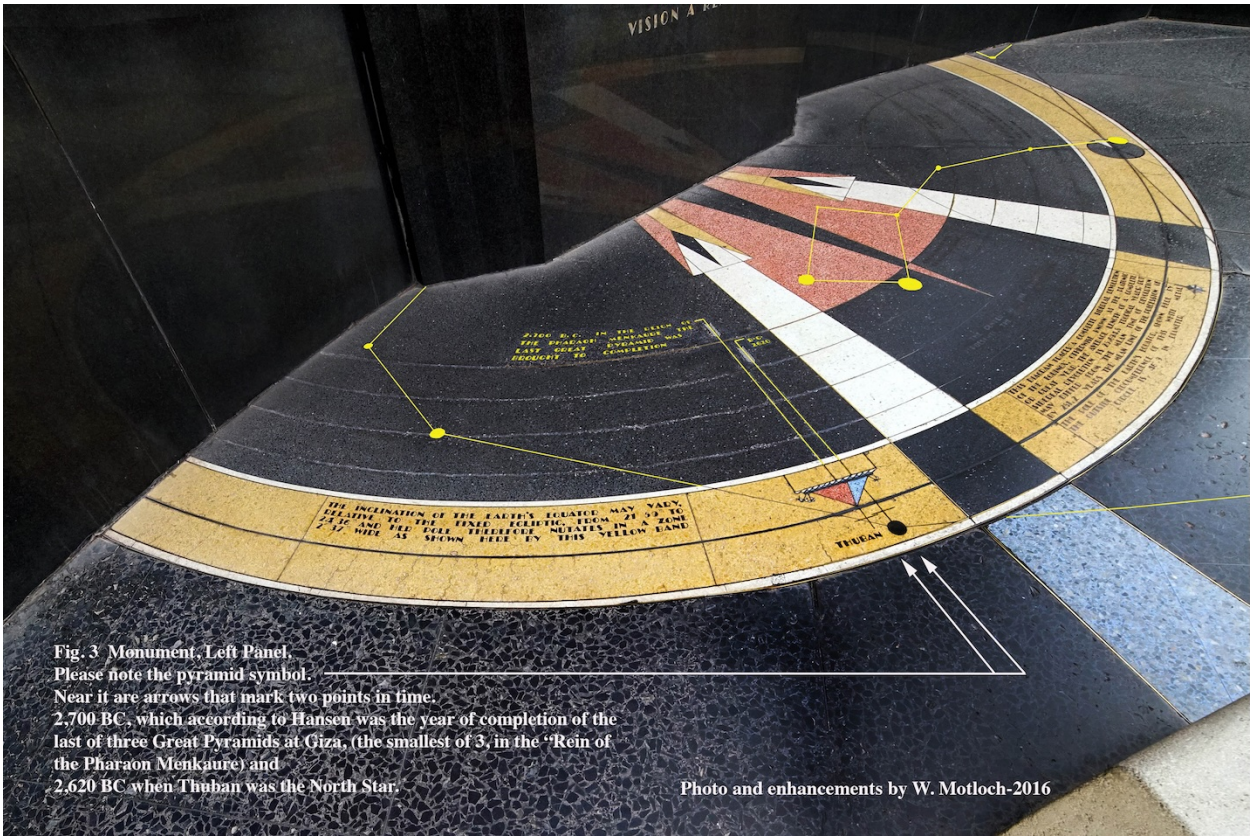
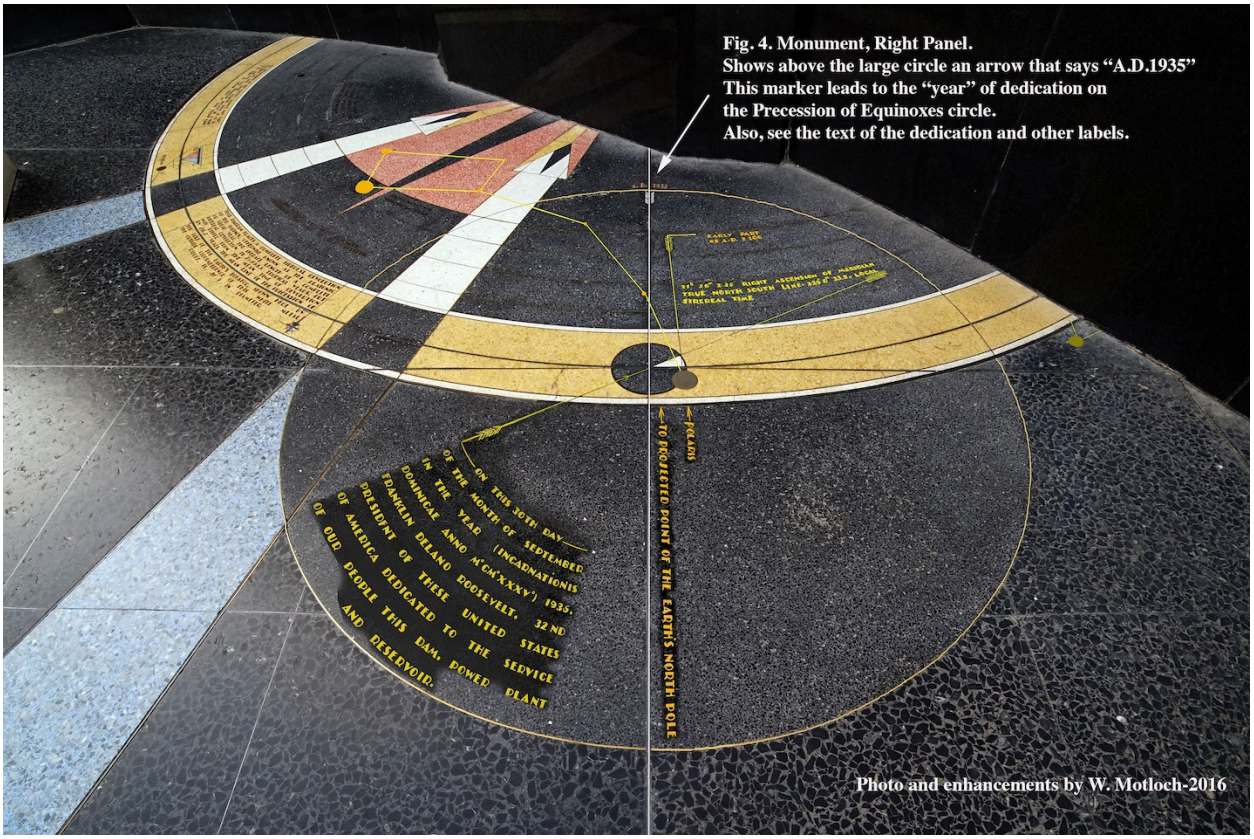


Fig. 3 Monument, Left Panel.
Please note the pyramid symbol.
Near it are arrows that mark two points in time.
2,700 BC, which according to Hansen was the year of completion of the last of three Great Pyramids at Giza, (the smallest of 3, in the "Rein of the Pharaon Menkaure) and
2,620 BC when Thuban was the North Star.

Photo and enhancements by W. Motloch-2016



Main Article

Located on the Nevada side of Hoover Dam is an extraordinary monument dedicated to over 100
workers who lost their lives in its construction. The base of the memorial features a terrazzo floor
designed to appear as a celestial star map, rich in symbolism and astronomical detail. This paper explores how the monument encodes a specific moment in timethe dams dedication on
September 30, 1935 at 21:30. Through careful analysis using Stellarium, constellations like Ursa
Minor and star positions confirm the time and date embedded in the floors layout. The work is a
tribute to Oskar J.W. Hansens vision and astronomical precision.
[Full article content continues in complete version.

About the Author

Wally Motloch is an explorer, traveler, photographer, woodworker, and amateur astronomer who is

fascinated by ancient sites with special celestial alignments.

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